(iv) **M/s. Kodagu Coffee Curing Works, Kushalnagar:** The curer has paid the value of stocks to the Coffee Board. Other dues towards Purchase Tax, Excise Duty and pool expenses are being recovered in instalments from January, 1994.

Basic Objectives of EPZs

3517. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA. Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the basic objectives for which the Export Processing Zones were set up in the country;

(b) the extent to which these EPZs have come up to the objectives laid down;

(c) the reasons for these EPZs not coming upto the desired objectives; and

(d) the steps taken to streamline and revamp the policies and procedures to achieve the basic objectives for which EPZs had been set up?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE):(a) the establishment of Export Processing Zones, inter-alia, aims at earning foreign exchange, stimulating domestic and foreign investments in exports oriented industries and expanding employment opportunities.

(b) EPZs have upto 31.3.1994 cumulatively achieved exports of Rs. 8761 crores. Foreign and domestic investments at present is of the order of Rs. 588 crores while the Zone units currently provide employment to about 47800 persons.

(c) and (d) Even though the Zones have, by and large, achieved their objectives, steps are taken from time to time to improve the export competitiveness of units located therein. Some recent initiatives in this direction include rationalistion of duty structure on domestic disposal of finished products, waste and scrap, higher access to the local market and flexible value addition norms for electronic products, simplification of custom procedure and liberalised debonding formalities, Areas of activity in EPZs have also been broadened to include trading, re-export after repacking/labelling, repairs, reconditoning and re-engineering.

ITPO Survey for Identifying Areas of Trade with South Africa

3518. SHRI G.Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) which recently concluded a market survey in South Africa has identified key ares for trade with South Africa;

(b) if so, which are these and how Government propose to strengthen bilateral trade and economic cooperation between the two countries; and

(c) how India is being projected as a modern State to get the required success in the developed South African market?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The survey has identified various areas for export to South Africa viz. garments, textiles, home furnishings, rice, spices, coffee, computer software and hardware, handtools and machine tools, surgical and medical equipments, toys, handicrafts, leather goods, footwear, bulk drugs, chemical and dyes and earth moving equipments etc. The Govt. looks at South Africa as a new emerging economic force in the African Continent and India desires to sefely use it as a launching pad for promoting trade with the entire African and Latin American Continent. Effort is being made to project India's competence to supply high-tech consumer engineering goods. ITPO therefore had organised a seminar in collaboration with World Trade Centre at Bombay on 11th June, 1994 to dissemi-